

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The committee amendment was agreed to.

The bill (S. 918), as amended, was read the third time, and passed.

#### PRESERVATION OF ROUTE 66 CULTURAL RESOURCES

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of H.R. 66, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 66) to preserve the cultural resources of the Route 66 corridor and to authorize the Secretary of Interior to provide assistance.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read the third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 66) was considered read the third time and passed.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I am so very pleased that the Senate has passed H.R. 66, and taken an historic step in preserving one of America's cultural treasures—Route 66. I have long championed preservation of Route 66, the "Mother Road," which changed and shaped America in the twentieth century. This body had already passed my legislation earlier this year, S. 292, the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Act. Congresswoman HEATHER WILSON of Albuquerque, New Mexico, reintroduced a companion bill (H.R. 66) in the House of Representatives, and after a few amendments, we have finally got legislation which will preserve the unique cultural resources along the famous Route and authorize the Interior Secretary to provide assistance through the Park Service. I have been working for this day for nine years.

This legislation almost became law at the end of the 105th Congress, but failed to pass in the House of Representatives due to last minute political wrangling. However, no one has ever questioned the merit of this legislation.

I introduced the "Route 66 Study Act of 1990," which directed the National Park Service to determine the best ways to preserve, commemorate, and interpret Route 66. As a result of that study, I introduced legislation last Congress authorizing the National Park Service to join with Federal, State, and private efforts to preserve aspects of historic Route 66, the Nation's most important thoroughfare for East-West migration in the twentieth century.

H.R. 66 authorizes a funding level over 10 years and stresses that we want

the Federal Government to support grassroots efforts to preserve aspects of this historic highway. The Secretary of the Interior can now support State, local, tribal, and private organizations' efforts to preserve these resources.

Designated in 1926, the 2,200-mile Route 66 stretched from Chicago to Santa Monica, CA. It rolled through eight American States and three time zones. In New Mexico, it went through the communities of Tucumcari, Santa Rosa, Albuquerque, Grants, and Gallup. New Mexico added to the aura of Route 66, giving new generations of Americans their first experience of our colorful culture and heritage. Route 66 allowed generations of vacationers to travel to previously remote areas and experience the natural beauty and cultures of the Southwest and Far West.

While mobility of Americans has increased, few have forgotten the impact of this two-lane roadway of our youth. The "Grapes of Wrath" illustrates how depression-era families utilized this "Mother Road" to escape the dust bowl and start new lives in the West. The western U.S. was later opened to tourism, and many people learned the beauties of this entire country, Midwest to West. And I think a few folks discovered that New Mexico really is the Land of Enchantment.

The bill is designed to assist private efforts to preserve structures and other cultural resources of the historic Route 66 corridor. I am pleased that as we reach the turn of the century, we have recognized this historic landmark, and the impact it had on this Nation in this century.

I thank my colleagues for once again recognizing the importance of this legislation. I also want to thank the many New Mexicans and the National Historic Route 66 Federation for their support and help in this effort. Finally we will have a law recognizing the twentieth century equivalent to the Santa Fe Trail.

#### MUHAMMAD ALI BOXING REFORM ACT

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 161, S. 305.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 305) to reform unfair and anti-competitive practices in the professional boxing industry.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill which had been reported from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with amendments; as follows:

(The parts of the bill intended to be stricken are shown in boldface brackets and the parts of the bill intended to be inserted are shown in italic.)

S. 305

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Muhammad Ali Boxing Reform Act".

#### SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Professional boxing differs from other major, interstate professional sports industries in the United States in that it operates without any private sector association, league, or centralized industry organization to establish uniform and appropriate business practices and ethical standards. This has led to repeated occurrences of disreputable and coercive business practices in the boxing industry, to the detriment of professional boxers nationwide.

(2) Professional boxers are vulnerable to exploitative business practices engaged in by certain promoters and sanctioning bodies which dominate the sport. Boxers do not have an established representative group to advocate for their interests and rights in the industry.

(3) State officials are the proper regulators of professional boxing events, and must protect the welfare of professional boxers and serve the public interest by closely supervising boxing activity in their jurisdiction. State boxing commissions do not currently receive adequate information to determine whether boxers competing in their jurisdiction are being subjected to contract terms and business practices which may be violative of State regulations, or are onerous and confiscatory.

(4) Promoters who engage in illegal, coercive, or unethical business practices can take advantage of the lack of equitable business standards in the sport by holding boxing events in states with weaker regulatory oversight.

(5) The sanctioning organizations which have proliferated in the boxing industry have not established credible and objective criteria to rate professional boxers, and operate with virtually no industry or public oversight. Their ratings are susceptible to manipulation, have deprived boxers of fair opportunities for advancement, and have undermined public confidence in the integrity of the sport.

(6) Open competition in the professional boxing industry has been significantly interfered with by restrictive and anti-competitive business practices of certain promoters and sanctioning bodies, to the detriment of the athletes and the ticket-buying public. Common practices of promoters and sanctioning organizations represent restraints of interstate trade in the United States.

(7) It is necessary and appropriate to establish national contracting reforms to protect professional boxers and prevent exploitative business practices, and to require enhanced financial disclosures to State athletic commissions to improve the public oversight of the sport.

(8) Whereas the Congress seeks to improve the integrity and ensure fair practices of the professional boxing industry on a nationwide basis, it deems it appropriate to name this reform in honor of Muhammad Ali, whose career achievements and personal contributions to the sport, and positive impact on our society, are unsurpassed in the history of boxing.

#### SEC. 3. PURPOSES.

The purposes of this Act are—

(1) to protect the rights and welfare of professional boxers by preventing certain exploitative, oppressive, and unethical business practices they may be subject to on an interstate basis;

(2) to assist State boxing commissions in their efforts to provide more effective public oversight of the sport; and